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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **HB 6365**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATES TO GRADUATES OF THE CONNECTICUT ALTERNATE ROUTE TO CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill creates a third way for the State Board of Education (SBE) to issue initial educator certificates. Currently, SBE must issue them to applicants who have graduated with a bachelor's degree from either (1) a teacher education program approved by SBE or (2) another program approved by SBE, or a college or university (a) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) or SBE or (b) regionally accredited. Under the bill, SBE must also issue an initial educator certificate to any person who has graduated from the summer or weekend and evening alternative route to certification (ARC) program, which is administered by the Office of Higher Education.

Applicants who have completed the ARC program must also satisfy requirements set in existing law: completion of (1) teaching training equivalents required by SBE and accredited by the BOR and (2) a subject area major, unless a teacher shortage in a subject area justifies a waiver.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Initial Educator Certificate***

An initial educator certificate is a license to teach that is issued to a person who has met the requirements for entrance into a beginning educator program. This program, established by SBE, aims to improve the quality of the first years in the classroom and to determine whether the person has achieved the expertise deserving of license promotion

(CGS § 10-144o(2)).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 16 Nay 0 (03/07/2013)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 52 Nay 0 (04/22/2013)